The Lions' Pride

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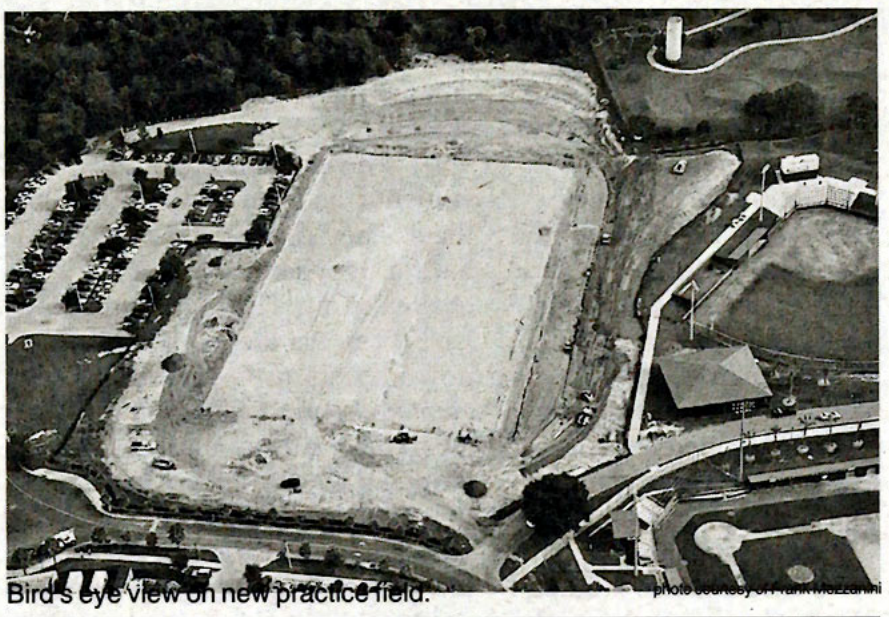
Saint Leo undergoes changes

Please Excuse our Dust

By Tara McLoughlin
News Editor

When students arrived for the 2011 fall semester, they were surprised to find that the school they had left months before had changed. There were now directory signs guiding cars through the campus, a freshly bricked round-a-bout, refurbished Bio Labs and a brand new building standing in the distance. (made the second paragraph the lead)

Students may have also forgotten about the major construction the campus is currently undergoing, including the construction of two new residence halls that were slated to be started by this time. But they were soon reminded when they were greeted by bulldozers, restriction signs, and large mounds of dirt in the parking lot that they once parked in. Part of the parking lot will continue to be closed off until the completion of building five (the easternmost building). Building five will be finished in the fall of 2012, while building six (the westernmost building) is expected by Thanksgiving of that same year. Although this is a major project, it is just one of the many new projects taking place on campus.



Bird's eye view on new practice field. photo courtesy of Frank Mezzanini

The old practice field is also in the process of being torn apart as well. According to Frank Mezzanini, Vice president of Business Affairs, this is because it is necessary in order to complete the new NCAA soccer/lacrosse field and parking garage that is going to be built on the current soccer field, with construction starting early November.

"The student athletes need a place to practice and compete. To do that we have to level the old practice field," said Mezzanini

This is especially important because the parking garage and the field will take nine months to be built. It is hoped this project will be completed by June 30, 2012.

The practice field, which will soon be known as the NCAA Intramural field, will be ready for use by the end of October. It will be made the temporary main playing field for athletes. But the NCAA Intramural field will be required to follow strict rules and regulations to be playable for competition.

"15 feet of dirt was removed from the north end, 4 feet was added to the south end, and extensive damage was added to get it within NCAA specifications," said Mezzanini.

In the future, Mezzanini hopes to add a running track around this field. However, this item still needs to be discussed further

A majority of the excess dirt from the soccer fields will be going into the northeast corner of the property, where a second intramural field will be located. This field will be open to everyone. The remaining dirt will be used to flatten out the bowl.

As for future projects, Mezzanini explains that there are several projects already planned out. In the course of the next few years, the admissions building, library loggia, Marmion Center and Crawford building, will all be redone. A new underground electrical system and site lighting will also be put into place as well.

To find out more information about the current construction projects, please visit www.SLUCONSTRUCTIONPOSTEROUS.COM Here you will be able to see a bird's eye view of the construction sites, as well as video footage and links to four live cameras to watch the construction via the internet.

Putting faith into action

By Lindsay Renner
Copy Editor

With the recent departure of Melissa Hollis from the Saint Leo staff, it seemed to many as if the twice-yearly musicals were over and done with, a part of the past slated to remain in the past. However, a small but growing group of students dedicated to God's work and the community at large are out to change this perception.

Hollis left the Saint Leo community last month following a series of changes in her life. With a baby on the way and a new job to tend to, Hollis and her husband moved to Ohio to be closer to her family. T here was much speculation that the Drama Ministry program was dead, something to never be seen again on campus.

Despite the odds, a small group of students is banding together to pick up where Melissa left off. The new student group, Opus Fide, is still a work in progress but promises to not only continue the work of the drama ministry program, but to add some new features to it as well. The charge for this group was led by Saint Leo sophomore Dominique Spano, who says that she is "...very passionate about the drama ministry and it's what got me involved here and introduced me to the people I know today." Further, Spano says that the name Opus Fide holds a special significance for the campus and its core values. "Opus Fide means 'Faith at work', says Spano. "We go through University Ministry, and want to do God's work. We want to proclaim his works, his love and his gospel however we can. It just means putting our faith into action."

However, Spano is assuredly not the only player at work here. The group met recently for the first time last Thursday, the 29 of October, to draft the group's constitution and start taking the initial steps towards recognition from both the school as a whole and SGU. Spano seems hopeful about this process, saying "A lot of people who never got involved before are doing so now. People are very receptive."

Some of the group's goals for the year include forming an improvisation group, holding a living Stations of the Cross and nativity scene, and performing various community service acts in the surrounding area, including singing at local nursing homes. Opus Fide combines Saint Leo's core value of community with art and the love of God.

Opinions

Harvard is just out of reach - they'll take a check

By Collin Good
Editor-in-Chief

After a recommendation from a professor, I found an opinion piece in the October 2 issue of The New York Times that I had overlooked. The piece, written by James Atlas, looked at the way universities are accepting students today. It turns out everything you've learned about the admissions process is wrong, and no one is teaching the right way to get into graduate programs.

Atlas' piece highlights the notion that students with more flexible discretionary spending budgets are more likely to walk onto the campuses of Ivy League institutions each fall. It doesn't seem to be related to future endowments, but rather, future global contributions. Students who have taken it upon themselves to study abroad before college, helping relief efforts overseas or building orphanages, have created a new class of student: one that can only be attained by finding a wealthy patron. These students are the new Henry Kissengers and the new Indira Gandhis, simply because they got a jumpstart on everyone else.

I come from a small, blue collar Connecticut town (yes, believe it or not, they do exist) where hard work can get you where you want to go. I worked hard throughout middle school and high school, with the promise from my guidance counselors that being the well-rounded student could write its own ticket. My hometown is less than an hour from Yale, two hours from Harvard, two hours from Brown, and three hours from Princeton and Columbia. In an area like this, it's hard to see that students going to the University of Connecticut aren't going to just another state school; they're going to one of the top ranked public universities in the nation.

I took the SAT in 7th grade, thanks to a program through Johns Hopkins University. I was president of five clubs in high school, played sports all three seasons, played two instruments, studied Latin for four years, took AP classes, and was in the top ten percent of my graduating class. I was denied entry from Notre Dame and Fordham University, and waitlisted at the University of Connecticut.

The well-rounded model student doesn't exist anymore. Too many of us realized that we could become world leaders simply by getting involved, and we picked up on Sesame Street's lessons early enough to create a new class of student leaders. Well-rounded has become a synonym for underwhelming, and students who continually strive to do more aren't getting Ivy placement, they're getting waitlisted. Students who can achieve academic excellence while holding full-time jobs as club participants aren't shining as brightly as those who can accomplish all of that while summering in Somalia feeding the starved.

The world needs these students, and I'm thankful for them. They continue to raise the bar for us when we look to challenge ourselves. The problem isn't them, it's the job market. In a down economy, fewer jobs are created. With the creation of fewer jobs, the academic market floods. Students who wouldn't have turned to graduate school in 2007 are staying in classes for the next few years, weathering the storm until partner tracks and expense accounts are bountiful again. We know it'll happen, history tells us so. We'll wait it out, gather three or four advanced degrees in every field imaginable, and rack up hundreds of thousands in debt by the time we're through. The issue isn't what degrees we're getting while we wait it out, it's where they're coming from.

With less than one percent of the graduates out there coming from Ivies and schools like Duke and Williams, it's impossible to think that the market craves only those who wear crimson blazers and have trust funds. It's time for a shift in the American way of thinking. It's time for all of us to realize that perhaps the experience of a class with Dr. Anderson at Saint Leo with the ten students who can make it until the end of the course is comparable to that of the lecture hall filled with 300 undergrads who will never meet the professor. It's time to realize that International Relations Crisis Theories with Dr. Rimanelli is a class of a dozen students absorbing whatever they can from someone who worked on Start II and with three national intelligence agencies. It's time to realize that the vast majority of the faculty at these elite institutions didn't receive their degrees from the institutions at which they teach. It's time to start judging education by its educated, not by its ranking in U.S. News and World Report.

I'm hopeful that our chances will get better. I'm hopeful personal essays and curricula vitae speak loudly enough for those of us looking for the best education possible in our fields. But I'm confident Saint Leo graduates are going to contribute just as much as the one percent of the Ivy grads out there, because at the end of the day, I got an education here, and so did you.

I got a 790 on those SATs in 7th grade. I hadn't had the math yet. I was 12.

Attention Seniors! The Class of 2012, the Student Philanthropy Council, and the Annual Fund present a series of seniors-only events October 10-14 across campus.

Join us for free ice cream on the Dempsey Plaza on Monday!

Send a graduating friend a card on Tuesday outside the cafeteria!

Come see us at Moonlight Madness on Thursday!

Attend a reception with the Alumni Board of Directors Friday from 5-6pm on the Loggia!

Look for flyers across campus!

The Lions' Pride

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Letters to the editor to The Lions' Pride should be no more than 500 words in length and should not include profane or slanderous language. We reserve the right to edit for grammar, spelling, and liable; as well as the right to publish or not. All submissions should be sent to **thelionspridenewspaper@gmail.com**. Letters to the editor must be submitted with student's name, year, and major. Faculty and staff members must include rank and department. Please include a phone number (not a publication) so we can verify authorship.

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International News

Palestinian authority pushes for formal statehood

Israel on board, but requests bi-lateral talks

By Greg Robinson
Online Editor

The Palestinian Authority has formally requested a bid for statehood from the U.N., the first step in a lengthy process that could result in a unified Palestinian nation. Mahmoud Abbas, President of The Palestinian Authority, made the declaration on Friday, Sept. 23, prompting criticism from Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and other leaders in the west.

The U.N. Security Council committee is currently reviewing the bid for formal statehood, which they will then vote on. If the vote passes, the Palestinian Authority's bid for statehood would then be put to a vote in the U.N. General Assembly.
The U.S., a member of the Security Council, has promised to veto the resolution should it be put to a vote.

However, even if the measure fails to clear the security council, the General Assembly could bump up the Palestinian's representation from its current "entity" to the higher level of "state," the same recognition held by the Vatican.

Much of the criticism comes from Israel, with whom The Palestinian Authority refuses to hold bi-lateral statehood talks. Netanyahu has said he supports the formation of a Palestinian state, but only if Israel is included in the discussion and formation of such a nation. President of the United States Barack Obama repeated this declaration, claiming that he supports Palestinian statehood, but only if Israel is allowed in bi-lateral talks.

In a recent development, the Middle East Quartet, consisting of the U.N., U.S., European Union, and Russia, has called for talks between the nations to resume within the month. The group's current envoy is former British prime minister Tony Blair. Israel said the talks could occur without preconditions, but The Palestinian Authority stated that they would only engage in negotiations if Israel halts settlement construction and resets borders to their 1967 status.

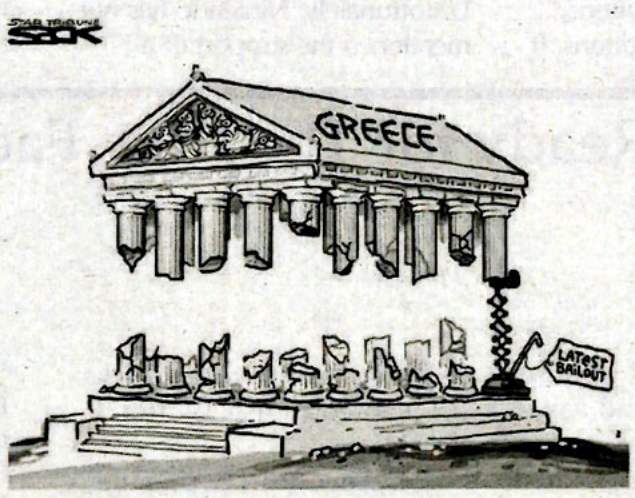
The Palestinians have been largely unsatisfied with Israel's terms for Palestinian existence in the region. They would like to include the West Bank and parts of East Jerusalem in their nation, lands taken from the Palestinians during the 1967 redrawing of borders. Netanyahu has also stated that Palestine must formally recognize Israel as a state, something they have yet to do. While both Abbas and Netanyahu say they want to co-exist, each is accusing the other of keeping information and holding secret talks.

Relations between the Palestinian people and the Israelis remain very tense. On Monday, Oct. 3, a mosque in the Israeli town of Tuba-Zangariyye was vandalized, according to CNN.com. The Imam of the mosque said it was clearly the work of Israeli citizens. Netanyahu criticized the vandalism and was said to be "furious" in an official statement.

However, Netanyahu is more concerned with the pipeline of weapons into the region and the actions of terrorist groups. He claims that until the Palestinians can assure peace and recognition of Israel, he will not support the formation of a Palestinian state. The talks could occur very soon, but only if The Palestinian Authority drops their preconditions and agrees to meet without set terms.

Why Europe is collapsing and why you should care

By Collin Good
Editor-in-Chief



Every morning, I grab newspapers across campus and open to the business section. It's incredible what you can learn about the world before even glancing at the front page. Every issue since early spring has included at least some mention of what's being known as the European Debt Crisis, and I'm going to break it down for you so that you know why we're covering it in a student newspaper, and how it affects you.

The Euro is the monetary unit of the majority of European nations. This was created so that an even exchange rate could be sustained throughout Europe, stabilizing each nation by bringing them to the same currency system. It's like comparing dollars to dollars rather than dollars to pesos. It made sense at the time, when the economy was strong. Europe has a history of alliances, and this one strengthened diplomatic ties between all nations involved, making it difficult for countries like Germany to ever become dictatorial again.

The problem came when weaker nations in the Euro Zone couldn't pay their debts. With the common currency, all nations involved must work together to keep nations from defaulting on their loans, allowing business to continue as usual. When the U.S. economy tanked, so did all European economies. The same resentment American taxpayers felt against the government bailing out General Motors and AIG reverberated through nations like Germany and France, who were using taxpayer money to bail out Greece, Spain, and Ireland.

So what does this all mean? It means markets are unstable. With the instability inside strong nations like Germany comes instability in their stock markets. Instability comes from the fact that no one wants to fund a bailout, and no one wants to be bailed out (Greece's situation means that they'll have to live a less luxurious lifestyle, something most Greeks aren't willing to do.)

Why should you care? Most of you are going to eventually be looking for a job. With instability in European markets, you're less likely to find one. Companies won't hire unless the market is strong. Our stock market hasn't been strong because of the instability in Europe's markets. But it's not that you just can't get a job, it's that the economy isn't picking up. That means less scholarship money to go around. This means less federal funding for public schools, like the University of Florida, which makes the FRAG money Florida residents receive even more important. Without a strong economy, there's less funding going to the FRAG, which means drastic cuts.

Thanks to the emerging concepts of a global economy, it's becoming more expensive to go to school, harder to find a job, and it's easier for employers to pay you less than they would have five years ago. There's a reason this is in the news every day, and we here at *The Lions' Pride* thought you should know.

Campus News

Nintendo Introduces Newest Gaming System

BY Alvin Atwater
Staff Writer

You all may have experienced Nintendo's Wii console. If so, you probably fell in love with its motion controls and or games such as Mario Kart, Wii Sports, or even Mr. Nintendo's Super Mario Galaxy series. You're probably thinking: what more can Nintendo do? Do they even have any more ideas? Well, the answer is yes. Nintendo will soon be launching a new game known as Wii U. It may be a strange name, but what this system has to offer sends gaming evolution into a new era.

Let's begin by describing the game. Its shape is similar to that of a Wii. The controller of this system evolves beyond any other gaming console. According to Nintendo, the new controller: is about 5.3 inches high, 0.9 inches deep (not including buttons and other projections) and 9.0 inches long. The new controller incorporates a 6.2-inch, 16:9 touch screen and traditional button controls, including two analog Circle Pads. This combination removes the traditional barriers between games, players and the TV by creating a second window into the video game world. The rechargeable controller includes a Power button, Home button, Control Pad, A/B/X/Y buttons, L/R buttons and ZL/ZR buttons. It also has a built-in accelerometer and gyroscope, rumble feature, camera, a microphone, stereo speakers, a sensor strip and a stylus

A glimpse into the future of Nintendo

Photo Courtesy of Nintendo

It also can have up to four Wii Remotes and Wii Remote Plus controllers (enhanced version of the original). The new console supports all Wii controllers and input devices, including the Nunchuk controller, Classic Controller, Classic Controller Pro, and Wii Balance Board. Unfortunately, Nintendo has not mentioned the support of a favorite: GameCube controller. This little notion upset quite a few gamers –especially those who follow most of Nintendo's popular series'such as Super Smash Bros. However, there is still hope: Nintendo is a clever company which does not reveal its secrets.

Let's move onto more detail of this must-buy system. The Wii U introduces a single self-loading media bay that will play 12-centimeter proprietary high-density optical discs for the new console, as well as 12-centimeter Wii optical discs. However, the most shocking evolution for Nintendo, other than its controller, is the HD support. The Wii U Supports 1080p, 1080i, 720p, 480p and 480i. Compatible cables include HDMI, component, S-video and composite. Imagine playing your favorite games such as Super Mario Galaxy, Legend of Zelda:, or Twilight Princess in high definition. We're talking about a new visual experience which is usually found on high-powered systems such as Sony's PlayStation 3 or Microsoft's Xbox 360.

According to Nintendo, "The console will have internal flash memory, as well as the option to expand its memory using either an SD memory card or an external USB hard disk drive. This system will also include four USB 2.0 connector slots. The new console is backward compatible with Wii games and Wii accessories. This means if you have Wii Games, you can migrate them to the Wii U.

Still too shocked about this new gaming system? Call Nintendo Customer Care and ask about the Wii U. You can surprise love ones in 2012, which is when this system launches. Don't miss out, because this is the first console of the future. The Wii U: Family's ultimate entertainment.

Are you Ready for The New Facebook?

By John Falco
Staff Writer

A few days ago, I went to my Facebook page and saw that it was drastically changed....again .I liked the smart lists (lists that you can edit and place friends in). What bothered me was this Real Time News Ticker and subscriptions. These are really annoying and complete copies of both the social networks Google+ and Twitter.

The News Ticker apparently is an algorithm which picks out certain things that it thinks you might like. Even if you've hidden this content before the new layout! The subscriptions are annoying because, it recommends people (usually celebrities) who you might want to subscribe to. This is basically how Twitter works, If I wanted to use Twitter, I would!

However, on September 22nd, Mark Zuckerberg, (CEO and Founder of Facebook.com), at the company's annual F8 conference in California, confirmed that this was only a temporary "launching session." They are merely getting profiles ready for their newest and slickest features.

First up is The Timeline. The timeline will soon replace your current profile in the coming weeks. Facebook wants you to put your whole life on the internet. From the very first moment of your birth, to college graduation, and beyond. The Timeline makes it easier to view past events, parties, trips, and even meals in chronological order. It will replace the picture banner on top of your profile with a "cover photo," that you can choose.

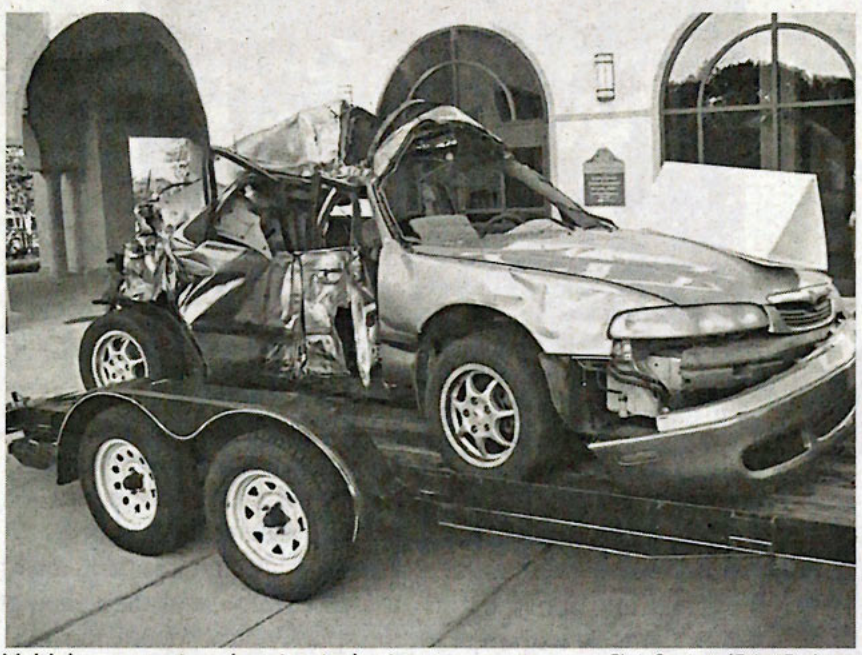
As Mark Zuckerberg explains it, "Imagine expressing the story of your life. If the original Facebook was the first five minutes [of a conversation] and the [News]stream was the next 15, what I want to show you today is the rest—the next few hours of a deep engaging conversation."

The company has parternerd with various media companies such as Hulu, Netflix, Spotify, and Yahoo! News to make social apps to share even more content. Facebook aims to be a Social Operating System and the number one media destination for sharing! Facebook could literally be your digital identity card of the future. These social sharing apps will soon be able to go anywhere on your timeline as they were once allowed anywhere on your profile.

But has Facebook angered users too much with too many changes, in it's relatively short history? I have seen a slight increase in traffic of friends wanting to join my Google+ circles and possibly thinking about boycotting the number one social network in the world! Facebook says it isn't worried about people leaving the site, they never stay gone for long.

I Drank, Drove, Killed, and We LOST

By Robert Barrington
Ad Editor



Vehicle serves to educate students

Photo Courtesy of Robert Barrington

On Thursday evening, September 29, 2011, placed on top of a trailer outside the Student Activities Building, was what used to be a Mazda 626. Renee Napier is the mother of Meagan Napier, who along with her best friend Lisa Jo Dickson, was killed in the Mazda by drunk driver Eric Smallridge. Napier tows the Mazda from school to school and has made it her mission to raise awareness of the danger of driving under the influence of alcohol, and to promote forgiveness and healing.

In the boardrooms of the Student Community Center, Napier starts her presentation by showing a startling video of Smallridge just before being sentenced; he cried loudly, "I need to be punished, I'm really sorry for the families for what I did, I caused so much pain, the only thing I can do is ask God to help me, and he has, but that is not going to bring Meagan and Lisa back, I wish I could, I wish I could give my life to bring them back to you, I don't know how you must feel, but it has to be worse than how I feel, I don't know what I can do, – I'm sorry."

On May 11, 2002 at 2:30 a.m., Meagan and Lisa left the house where they had been babysitting, and were on their way home. In the adjacent lane, Smallridge had just left a bar where he had been watching a favorite band with some friends. Twenty four year old Smallridge was drinking beer, like other times, he did a self-sobriety test by standing on one leg and putting his index finger on his nose. He felt he was sober enough to drive. On his right, a white car was in a lane that was ending and cut into his lane. Smallridge quickly pulled his truck into the left lane in order to avoid a collision with the white car, but ended up hitting Lisa's Mazda. The Mazda spun out of control and hit a tree. The impact had snapped the girls' necks and they died instantly.

Smallridge was convicted of two counts of DUI manslaughter that carry 15 year sentences each. The judge had the choice of either sentencing Smallridge with either two concurrent sentences or two consecutive sentences; the judge chose to give him two consecutive 11 year sentences adding up to 22 years and eight years of probation. Napier said she wanted to know who the man was that killed her daughter, and what type of household he had been brought up in.

Smallridge was a university student with two semesters left before graduating, and was able to finish his degree before being sentenced.

Smallridge had been brought up in a loving family. His father was a lawyer and his mother was an educator. He has two older brothers that had graduated from a university. Napier said that she had met Smallridge's family and realized that they had brought up their children with the same loving values that she had brought up her family with; she felt their pain. Napier's family, along with Lisa's family, went to see the sentencing judge and asked if he could restructure Smallridge's sentence so that he could serve them concurrently, the judge agreed.

After showing a video called "choices," Napier approaches her guest who is escorted towards her wearing hand cuffs, leg shackles and prison fatigues. Napier hugs her guest and introduces him as Eric Smallridge. Smallridge tells his story and how his wrong choice to drink and drive had caused so much suffering for so many families. Smallridge has served 10 years of his 11 year sentence and will be released next November. Napier had asked Smallridge to team up with her and with the permission and escort from the Sherriff's Office, the two have given 56 presentations at schools throughout Florida. The presentation ends with a sentimental photo video of Meagan, Lisa and Eric from childhood through university, while the song "The Reason" by Hoobastank plays in the background.

The Circus is Coming to Town

By Danielle Cortes
Staff Writer

"Come one, Come all. Step right up and join the fun!" It's that time of the year again, the Family Fall Festival. The parents and family members of the Saint Leo University community visit our beautiful campus to see family and friends and enjoy the weather and company. This year the festivities are scheduled to start October 21 and run through until Sunday October 23.

This year Saint Leo has chosen a circus theme for the festival. It will be set up like an old fashioned circus with booths, movies including Water for Elephants and Dumbo, a petting farm, pony and camel rides, along with other animal attractions and displays, magic shows, and mimes. Many organizations and clubs will be there as well on Saturday the 22. Each club and organization will be permitted to have a booth set either for donations or for use of fundraising. Every booth will be unique since no two booths can sell the same item, provide the same service, or contribute to the same fundraiser. This will be an opportune time for any organizations needing donations to think of ideas for fundraisers, as visiting families are often willing to help out a cause at their student's campus.

Saint Leo has not failed to pull out all the stops and create a strong schedule. Each day, there will be activities to both get the campus prepared for Saturday, and to finish off the weekend of festivities. There will be activities starting Friday evening with dinner, followed by Mentalist: Jonny Zavant, and finally movies. Saturday will continue with parent check in, a circus fair in the Bowl and lunch, dinner, and then a possible firework display. Sunday will conclude with Mass followed by brunch. It was reported that parking would be more than sufficient and should cause no problems when parents and guests arrive on campus. However, it is still suggested that those planning on parking on campus should plan to arrive earlier.

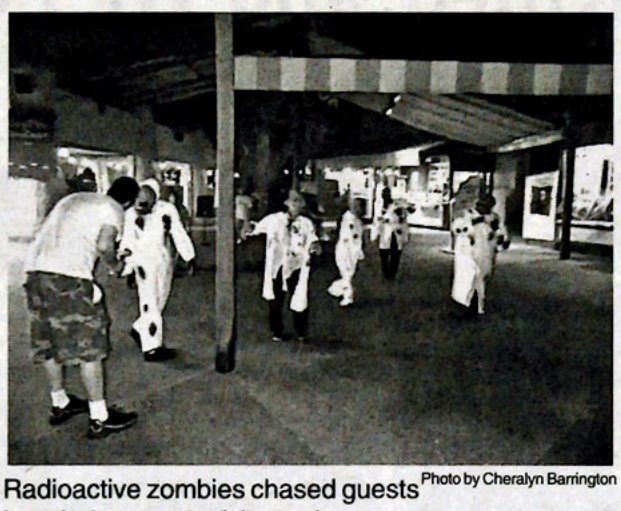
Tickets for the festival will be on sale soon. The pricing for the tickets this year are as follows: adults for just Saturday are $30, and for the whole weekend it is $45. For children (under 12 years of age) ticket pricing will be $10 for Saturday and $15 for the whole weekend. All prices, activities, possible revisions, and information for ticket purchasing will be posted on the Saint Leo website.

Arts & Entertainment

Howl-O-Scream

By Cheralyn Barrington
Layout Editor

Werewolves, dead cheerleaders, radioactive zombies, psycho doctors, and angry bikers wreck havoc on the streets of Busch Garden's Howl-O-Scream 2011.



Radioactive zombies chased guests into dark corners of the park Photo by Cheralyn Barrington

Howl-O-Scream's selection of scare-actors (employees in various costumes) is extremely diversified, and there is likely to be a physical representation of almost everyone's fear present this year. The theme is called The Dark Side of the Gardens, with the idea that at night-time, the Busch Gardens park distorts and changes into a horrifying place.

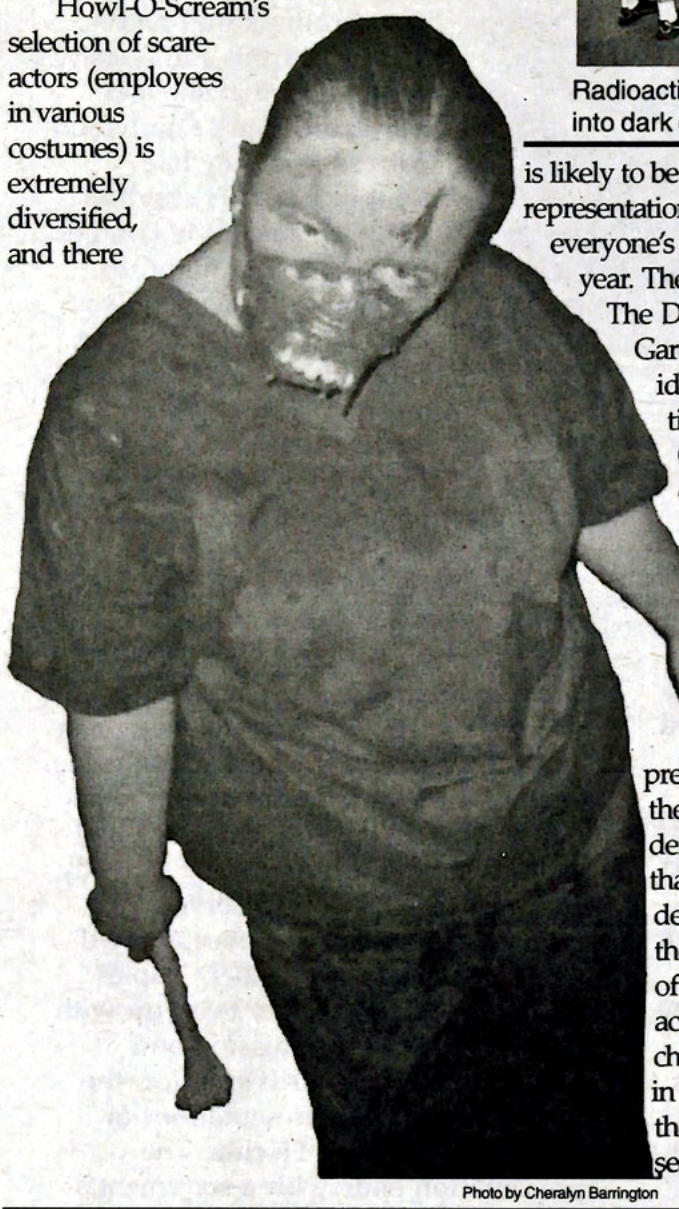


Photo by Cheralyn Barrington

One notable difference from previous years is there are no defined scare zones that are specifically decorated; rather, there are swarms of "zombiefied" actors that will chase after guests in various areas of the park. Overall, it seems there are fewer scare actors roaming the streets, but more strategically placed inside of the haunted houses. Although this takes away from the overall realistic feeling of the spooky atmosphere, the interior of the haunted houses are more frightening. As there are more actors placed around corners, behind doors, and above the guests' heads in the houses, guest are given more reason to scream, tremble, and run away in fear.

The houses this year are a combination of new and old. Three houses have been present in previous years, and three are brand new. The returning houses are Nightshade Toys, Deconstruction, and Death Row Vengeance. These represent a demonic toy factory, a destructive hospital, and a terrifying prison. Each has improved from last year as more scare-actors are present. Beyond adding actors to the houses, they haven't noticeably changed from previous years.

The new houses are Nevermore, Vampire Casino, and Zombie Mortuary. These include an interpretation of gothic horror stories written by Edgar Allan Poe, a sketchy casino run by vampires, and a full, intimate tour of a funeral. Out of the three, the Zombie Mortuary house is the most unique and enjoyable. The Vampire Casino and Nevermore houses bear striking resemblance to the houses at Universal Studio's Halloween Horror Nights this year. These houses seem thrown together and aren't as creative as some of the previous houses, such as Death Row Vengeance, which delivers a terrifying prison experience. In one part of the Death Row Vengeance house, guests walk by prisoners who are getting executed either by being hung or by electric chair.

As always, in addition to the houses, there are live shows guests can sit down and watch. Returning is the sexual comedy, Fiends, in which the cast dresses in skimpy attire, dances, and cracks sexual innuendos. A new show called The Midnight Hour was added, and is about a nightclub filled with pop stars.

Although Howl-O-Scream isn't totally built on originality this year, it's still good for a few screams, laughs, and a fun time. Even if the houses don't totally impress, many of the rides are open, and Busch Garden's new roller coaster, Cheetah Hunt, is worth a try. If the houses don't make guests scream, this coaster which goes from zero to 60mph in 3 seconds sure will.

The Extra 2% Book Review

By Robert Barrington
Ad Editor

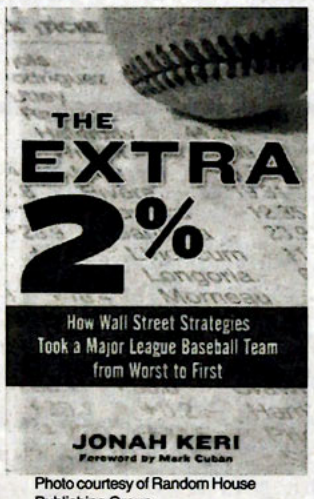


Photo courtesy of Random House Publishing Group

Jonah Keri's "The Extra 2%: How Wall Street Strategies Took a Major League Baseball Team from Worst to First." chronicles how Wall Streeters took an under-managed, under-financed, and under-talented laughing stock professional baseball team from consecutively being the worst team in MLB to winning the AL pennant in 2008.

"The Extra 2%" chronologies how the Tampa Bay (Devil) Ray's struggled to become a franchise team; overcoming years of bad decisions by their original owner, exorcising the "Devil" out of their name, and eventually being controlled by ex-Wall Street geniuses Stuart Sternberg and Matthew Silverman who put their Wall Street friend Andrew Friedman in charge of baseball operations as acting General Manager.

Keri writes how Wall Street strategies were applied to baseball by finding a forward thinking unconventional manager in Joe Maddon, and brokering long-term sweetheart deals with players like Evan Longoria, to stocking their minor league baseball teams with promising young talent who develop into top major league competitors.

Like the Oakland A's "MoneyBall," Keri demonstrates how the Tampa Bay Rays utilize the help of undervalued players, but unlike "MoneyBall," the Tampa Bay Rays expand their strategy to every aspect of baseball by applying "The Extra 2%." With only one-third of an operating budget for salaries compared to the New York Yankees and the Boston Red Sox, the Tampa Bay Rays were able to win the AL pennant in 2008, win the AL East championship in 2010, and beat out the Boston Red Sox for the AL East Wildcard in 2011.

Keri takes 'America's Pastime" to new heights with his easy read style of storytelling the history of baseball in Tampa Bay, and how a new franchised baseball team on a shoestring budget is able to compete shoulder to shoulder and eventually beat out the Boston Red Sox and the New York Yankees to play in the 2008 World Series by applying "The Extra 2%."

"The Extra 2%" is a highly recommended read for baseball fans and also for anyone who loves a good "Cinderella story." Once you pick up the book, you won't want to put it down.

Surviving Saint Leo

By Alyssa Schuyler
Asst. Layout Editor

Crafts are a great way to make something useful from something that would not have been used otherwise.

Free t-shirts have been given out at sporting events and games for years at Saint Leo University. Most recently the unveiling of Fritz the Lion was accompanied with a free t-shirt give away. The Roarwards Program was promoted with a free t-shirt when students signed up, as well as a t-shirts give away at the Activities Fair.

More often than not students will get a shirt, but it will be the wrong size, often too big. Most female students on campus tear up the shirt in lieu of a more stylish shirt or some people just toss the shirt in a drawer never to be worn or seen from again until its time to move out at the end of the acedemic year. One extremely useful way to use these shirts is by making them into seat cushion or pillow for use around campus.

What you'll need:
T-shirt
Scissors
Large piece of cardboard
Stuffing (pillow batting is preferable)
Clips (safety pins will work as well)

Cut out desired shape from t-shirt

Slit holes on both t-shirt sides and cut 5 inch strips to tie sides together.

Pin all three sides, making sure to leave the fourth open.

Finished pillow

Finished cushion

First, cut or tear all the seams from the shirt, so it is in two separate pieces. It should be the front for one piece and the back for the second piece. Next, decide how large the cushion will be. Measure this out for both pieces, then cut away the excess shirt. A square, circle, or rectangle are the simplest to use. After you have cut your desired shape out of both pieces of the shirt, cut the cardboard to match the shape, but make sure to cut it an inch smaller around. Next, place the pieces of t-shirt together equally and cut slits along the side no larger than an inch. To make sure the pieces stay even use clips or pins attached along the sides to keep from the two t-shirt pieces from moving as it is being cut. Now, with the excess t-shirt material cut thin 5inch pieces. Cut the amount of pieces to match the amount of slits that were made around the edge of the t-shirt. When finished cutting, use the 5inch strips of fabric from the extra shirt material to tie the three sides of the shirt together leaving one end open. The pieces that are cut together are the pieces to tie together. Be careful around the corners. The best way to tie them together is to use a square knot, as it will keep both side together the strongest. After cutting and tying together the two cut pieces of t-shirt, slide in the pre-cut piece of cardboard then put in stuffing until it is full, make sure it can still be tied on the last side. Make sure to look at what design is on the top or bottom and keep that in mind for preference and when doing final touches. Repeat these same steps without the cardboard in order to make a pillow.

This is a simple way to make something new and creative out of a t-shirt that may not have been used otherwise.

Moneyball Movie Review

By Cameron Braunig
Staff Writer

This fall's baseball blockbuster *Moneyball* starring Brad Pitt and popular comedy star Jonah Hill, is definitely worth a view. At its heart, it is a baseball documentary drama, but even people with zero baseball knowledge or interest can enjoy and be moved by this movie.

The plot is compelling, as Oakland A's General Manager Billy Beane (Brad Pitt) is handicapped with the lowest salary constraint in Major League Baseball. If he ever wants to win the World Series, Billy must find a competitive advantage. Billy finds a way to turn baseball on its side when he uses new statistical data to analyze and place value on the players he picks for the team, something that has never been done to this extent in Major League Baseball history.

The role of Billy Beane is an incredibly demanding one. While there is tons of dialog, hack arguments, and displays of physical rage; it is the silent storytelling, emotional turmoil, and change-of-heart reflections that are the toughest to convey in this film. This is easily Brad at his widest acting range and can be seen in a little over two hours.

Jonah Hill's, (who you know from the highly accredited comedy "Superbad") performance in the film is phenomenal and this may be the breakthrough serious role that this young actor has been looking for his whole career. His portrayal of Peter Brand, a Yale economics major and full time computer nerd, is beyond believable. You will swear that you know him personally after watching this film.

> "A Baseball movie that's not about baseball."

Beyond the two main characters, there is a huge cinematic star hiding within the film. After the first twenty minutes of the movie, I was so captivated with Brad Pitt and Jonah Hill's introduction to the story that I had forgot about Phillip Seymour Hoffman's role. I found this very impressive because I really did forget about Hoffman after such a charismatic opening. Hoffman delivers on every single scene and you literally sweat his frustration along with him.

This is an "onion" movie, constructed purposely to be entertaining on many different levels. It can be watched purely as an entertaining account of modern baseball history; how player statistics became one of the most important factors determining financial success in modern baseball.

For a more sentimental audience, it tracks the journey of a man forced to embrace change and disappointment as he fumbles aimlessly through life etching out an unremarkable career first as a failing professional player, then small-time scout, and washed-out General Manager; only to finally wake up - and find himself becoming one of the greatest living modernizers of the game.

Like all great sports films, *Moneyball* shares a deeper meaning than just simply winning. Whether an avid baseball fan or not, this movie will hit your heart and have you leaving the theater only wanting to go back in and do it all over again.

Sports

The quest for the World Series begins

By Scott Brumett
Staff Writer

As you all may know by now, the hunt for October is finally over and the MLB Playoffs have started. The teams that made the playoffs are the New York Yankees, Detroit Tigers, Texas Rangers, Tampa Bay Rays, Philadelphia Phillies, Milwaukee Brewers, Arizona Diamondbacks, and the St. Louis Cardinals. It was a long season and now the hunt for the World Series trophy begins. We should see how each team got to the playoffs.

The Yankees finished the season with a 97-65 record. The Yankees also lead all off the major league clubs in the category of homeruns with 222 homeruns in the 2011 season. They also were second in the majors with 867 runs total. On the pitching side the Yankees pitching was averaging a total team ERA of 3.73 and along the way also striking out 1,222 batters. The combination of a high powered offense and tough pitching is what put them in the playoffs.

The Rays had the eighth best team ERA with a 3.58 ERA in the majors. James Shields and rookie Jeremy Hellickson really stepped up for the Rays this year and newcomer Kyle Farnsworth provided stability in the closer role. With solid defense, timely hitting, and speed on the bases the Rays played their style of baseball into the playoffs. A big reason they are in was their drive and the collapse of the Boston Red Sox. The Rays were 9 games down in the Wild Card at the beginning of September, and slowly but surely chipped away at Boston. It wasn't until the last game of the season that Tampa Bay had a huge come back from behind win versus New York and Boston blew the lead versus Baltimore that sealed Tampa Bay's place in the 2011 playoffs.

The Texas Rangers finished this year with leading the majors in team batting average and drove in a total of 807 runs. Texas is lead by Josh Hamilton, last year's AL MVP. CJ Wilson is also a big reason they are in the playoffs as well. The Texas Rangers' defense and speed on the bases is another reason they are and will be a force in the playoffs.

The Detroit Tigers are another team that made the playoffs this year. The tigers are lead by All-Star Justin Verlander who won 24 games for the Tigers with a 2.40 ERA while striking out 250 batters. The Tigers also have a great and powerful offense. The tigers scored 787 runs in the 2011 regular season and had a team Batting average of .277. So it's safe to say that with their key and timely hitting, along with their pitching, the Tigers are very deserving of being in the playoffs.

The Philadelphia Phillies are coming back to the playoffs this year with a loaded team. They are stacked on Starting pitching with Roy Halladay, Cliff Lee, Roy Oswalt, and Cole Hamels. With this group and more, the Phillies lead all of baseball with a team ERA of 3.02. The Phillies also had a very hot bats in the offensive side of the ball with scoring 713 runs this 2011 year and also stole 96 bases as a team.

The Cardinals had a bumpy road this year, but overcame adversity to make the playoffs. The cardinals had a team batting average of .273 scored 762 runs this 2011 regular season. They have the Star Power with Albert Pujols, Matt Holliday, and Lance Berkman. The pitching came in the clutch at the end of the year and the hits came to send the Cardinals into the playoffs this year as the National League Wild Card Spot.

As for the Brewers they made the playoffs due to the .332 hitting Ryan Braun and consistent pitching from starter Zack Greinke and closer John Axford. The Brewers come into the playoffs hungry for a ring after many early postseason exits.

The Arizona Diamonbacks broke into the playoffs with an eight game lead over the San Francisco Giants. Lead by the emergence of Justin Upton and the up and coming ace Ian Kennedy, the Diamondbacks pose a threat to the other National League teams who have more postseason experience.

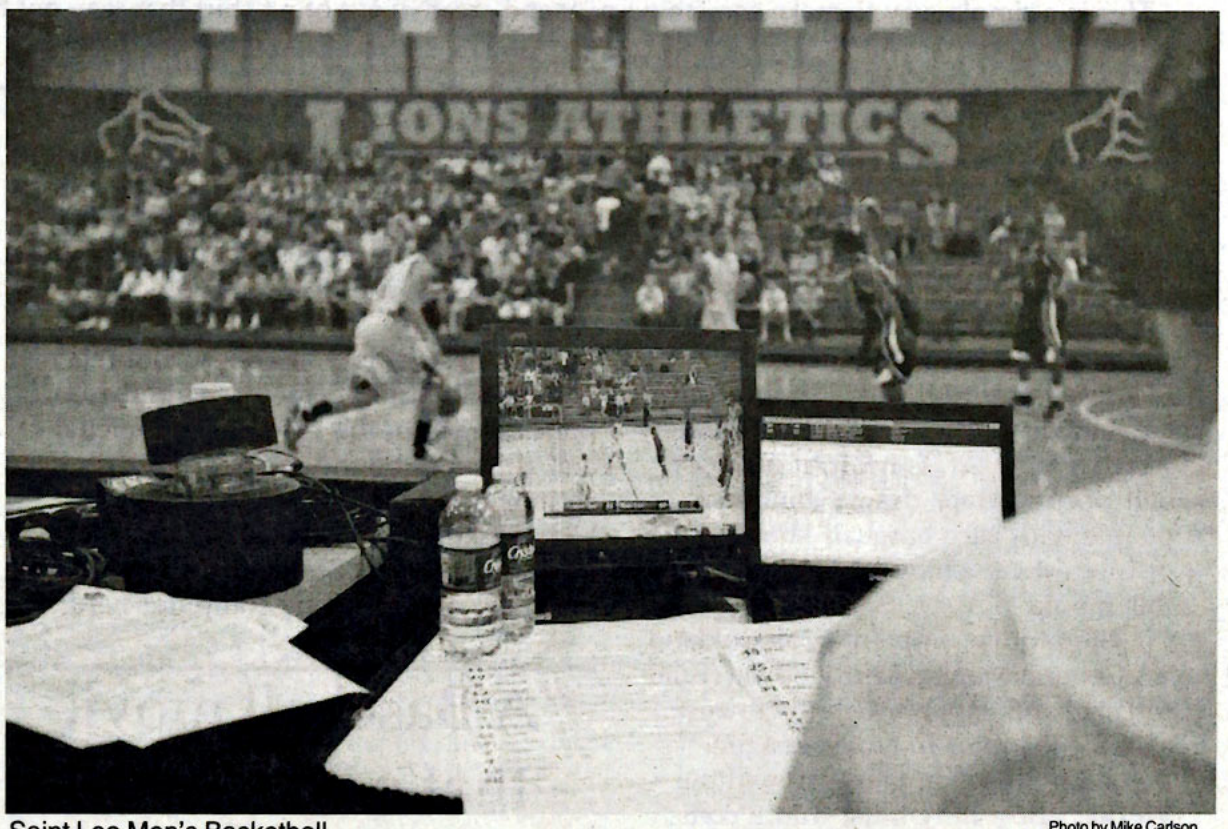
The Yankees face the Tigers, with the Bombers wielding home field advantage while the Rays face off against the Rangers with the Rangers having the extra home game. In the National League the Phillies host the Cardinals while the Brewers have the Diamondbacks coming into town.

Moonlight Madness returns

By Katie Gwinn
Staff Writer

One of Saint Leo University's many traditions includes that of Moonlight Madness – an annual event that kicks off the start of the men's and women's basketball seasons. Much like Saint Leo, larger schools host events to indicate the beginning of their athletic program's basketball seasons. However, despite the fact that Saint Leo hosts such an event every year, this year's Moonlight Madness will be somewhat different than last year's.

Hosted by Saint Leo Athletics and the Student Government Union, October's Moonlight Madness will be the first of many for new Saint Leo Men's Basketball Coach Lance Randall and Women's Coach Nikki Jessee. In addition to recognizing the new coaches and new and returning players of each team, those attending can expect to enjoy a fun atmosphere and free give-aways. Fans will be able to participate in opportunities to receive free Domino's pizza as well as free Saint Leo gear. The night will also include comedian Jen Kober, the Air



Saint Leo Men's Basketball

Photo by Mike Carlson

Elite Trampoline Gymnastic Basketball Team, as well as contests and raffles to win various prizes. Sponsored by Dunkin Donuts, the grand prize of one of the many raffles will be an iPad. This year's Moonlight Madness will take place in the Marian Bowman Activities Center on October 14th at 7 p.m.

Upcoming Events

Friday October 7
Women's Soccer vs. Rollins
University Field 7:00 pm
Green-Out/Wendy's Free Fry Night
(First 50 ROARwards members)

Saturday October 8
Women's Volleyball at Florida Southern
Conference Game 4:00 pm

Mens Cross Country at Disney Classic
Wide World of Sports Orlando 7:45am

Swimming vs Florida Tech
Bowman Center Pool 1:00 pm

Women's Cross Country at Disney Classic 5K
Wide World of Sports 8:30am